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With Sunday Morning Edition.
THEODORE W. NOYES, Editor.
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Need for Action Now

While some new evidence is presented almost every day of the new, emergency needs facing the District as a result of the influx of thousands of defense workers, it would be a mistake to regard the Overton-Hunter formula for measuring the size of the Federal payment as designed merely to meet proposed emergency expenditures or as being justified only by new and perhaps temporary conditions.

New demands placed on the municipal government as a result of sudden population increases do accentuate, of course, the inadequacy of revenue available under the present system of dividing National Capital costs between the local community and the National Government.

But the principle of the Overton formula was offered by Senator Overton as a convenient, practical method of measuring the extent of an obligation which, though recognized, is not being fulfilled by the lump sum method of appropriating. Proposed and approved by the Senate long before the present emergency, Senator Overton has renewed his efforts in behalf of this formula at a time when the necessity for substantial increases in the District's budget is receiving general recognition.

Approval of the Overton plan by the Senate subcommittee yesterday indicates early and favorable action by the Senate itself, for Senator Overton plans to push for immediate consideration. Chairman Hunter of the House subcommittee, in charge of the proposal, plans hearings next week. As consideration of the District appropriation bill is not expected to begin until next month, passage of the Overton bill in both houses would facilitate the work of the appropriations committees in dealing, as soon they must, with a District budget framed and sent to Congress before the defense emergency needs became evident.

National Business Charters

In a final statement to the temporary National Economic Committee, Senator O'Mahoney, its chairman, has recommended Federal charters for corporations transacting business on a national scale, "in order that these agencies may have a definite and free place in our economy and local business may be differentiated and protected from national business." The proposal, the most important of the chairman's recommendations designed to "re-establish and encourage free private enterprise" in the United States calls for the Federal incorporation or licensing of interstate business corporations, as provided by the old Borah-O'Mahoney bill.

As Senator O'Mahoney diagnoses the country's economic ills, a basic trouble is the alleged concentration of wealth and economic power in the hands of a comparatively few corporations, some of which, he points out, have assets greater than those of many States. Because of the Nation-wide scope of the operations of these companies and their ownership of a large part of the wealth and income of the country, and because they are too large to be controlled by States and local governments, he urges the enactment of a national charter law, thus making it possible for the Federal Government to define the responsibilities and duties of these corporations. Such a law, he said, "would make corporate directors trustees in fact, as well as in law, and, at the same time, make them personally liable for violations of the anti-trust laws."

That the growth of large corporations has brought with it economic and other problems will readily be conceded. Reasonable exception may be taken, however, to Senator O'Mahoney's statement "that the stock ownership of these corporations is not substantially distributed among the people of the country." Stocks of many of the Nation's big corporations are widely spread in their ownership throughout the land and the assets of insurance companies are held for millions of individual policyholders. Apart from dividends to stockholders, the big companies distribute vast sums each year to their salaried personnel and wage earners. Corporate wealth, in its distribution, rests on a broad base. Created in 1938 at the suggestion of the President to investigate the Nation's economic ailments and suggest a prescription for their cure, the T. N. E. C. has closed its public hearings and will soon make public its final recommendations. What

specific proposals the T. N. E. C. will make has not yet been revealed. With the country engaged in a gigantic rearmament effort, it is to be hoped that Congress will take no action at this time to extend existing Federal controls over business in a way that might discourage private enterprise. Consideration of proposals of this kind should be deferred until after the present emergency and should then be weighed in terms of the needs and problems of our post-war economy.

Help Greece Now!

The primary aim of the lend-lease act is to safeguard Britain against German attack, because the fall of Britain would be a catastrophe transcending all else. Yet the act's broader objective is to aid the opponents of totalitarian aggression everywhere. And surely none is more deserving of quick and generous assistance than is heroic Greece—a fact specifically recognized by the President when he announced Tuesday that Greece would share in the first shipment of materiel to leave this country after passage of the act.

Greek Minister Diamantopoulos declared yesterday that Greece will hold firm against "all aggression." None can doubt Greece's determination to do this. The exploits of the Hellenic soldiers in Albania are as amazing as were those of the Finns in their dogged resistance to the Russian colossus; and, thanks to British aid, Greek resistance has been more enduringly successful. The punishment inflicted upon the Italians has been noteworthy, both in men and materials. The Greek military authorities estimate that at least 130,000 Italian soldiers have been killed or captured on the Albanian front since the Greco-Italian war started last October, and fresh losses pile up rapidly with every passing day. The Albanian venture has become a chronic ulcer, eating away steadily at Italy's waning strength.

But the military aspect is far outweighed by the diplomatic and psychological services which Greece has rendered to the fight against the totalitarian powers. To estimate the value of these "imponderables," it is only necessary to cast the mind's eye back to last autumn and consider how different the situation might have been if John Metaxas had yielded to Mussolini's ultimatum.

Up to that time, Germany had gone from victory to victory, while Italy had confidently stepped in on what looked like the winning side. A big Italian Army had crossed the Egyptian frontier from Libya, while another large army in Italian East Africa threatened to take Britain's Egyptian base and the vital Suez Canal in the rear. Almost two decades of boastful preparation had given Fascist Italy considerable prestige. At least, cautious critics were willing to give it the benefit of the doubt.

The miserable showing made by the Italians in their invasion of Greece pricked the bubble of Fascist prestige. It may have been largely on the basis of that poor showing, as well as on the acquisition of Greek bases in Crete and elsewhere, that General Wavell determined to risk what looked like a gamble in his Libyan campaign.

The diplomatic and strategic repercussions of the Italian fiasco upon German plans were likewise important. If Greece had tamely surrendered and had been occupied by the axis, the whole Balkan peninsula might well have followed suit, and perhaps Turkey as well. There is good reason to believe that the axis general staffs were then planning a gigantic pincer operation against Egypt and the Near East. The progressive collapse of Italian military and naval power sent that bold idea into the discard. Even today, for all the Reich's military advances and diplomatic successes in the Balkans, Germany is there strategically on the defensive, seeking to keep the Balkans at peace and prevent the formation of a Balkan war-front. Greece's timely resistance alone made this possible.

Perhaps most important of all has been the electrifying effect of Greek heroism in the realm of the spirit. Everywhere, men have been taught the lesson that patriotic devotion in defense of high ideals goes far to outweigh handicaps in numbers and equipment; that this is not simply a war of machines but of dauntless souls as well. That is Hellas' supreme contribution to the cause which most Americans hold dear. It is time that Greece received from us prompt and generous support in her hour of dire need.

Argentine Beef

Renewal by the House Appropriations Committee of a prohibition against the purchase of Argentine beef by the Navy may be expected to aggravate an international sore spot, the political importance of which is out of all proportion to its economic significance.

The Hawley-Smoot Tariff Act, passed in 1930, contained a provision which has had the effect of imposing an absolute embargo on imports of fresh or frozen meats from the Argentine, and the refusal of Congress to lift this prohibition has so seriously impaired relations between the United States and the Latin American republic that Secretary Hull has made determined but unsuccessful efforts to bring about its repeal or modification.

Under the tariff legislation, the ban on competitive meat imports takes the form of a sanitary embargo against any country in any part of which foot-and-mouth disease exists

or any part of which has been exposed to infection. This provision affects some fifteen countries, but Argentina and Uruguay are the only ones which are important exporters of meats. Believing that this legislation added nothing to the domestic safeguards against infected meats which had been erected by the Department of Agriculture since 1890, Secretary Hull negotiated a Sanitary Convention with Argentina, which was signed in 1935 and which would have had the effect of permitting meat imports from sections of that country not affected by the disease.

Despite the fact that the Department of Agriculture, on the basis of a study made by its experts, has approved the convention, however, repeated efforts by the administration to secure Senate approval of the treaty have been unsuccessful. The well-known sentiments of producers in the Western cattle States, who are opposed to any competition from the Argentine, have proved more potent than Secretary Hull's arguments in behalf of the good neighbor policy, and the treaty ratifying the convention continues to gather dust in a Foreign Relations Committee pigeonhole.

Naval Supremacy

The \$3,446,585,144 appropriation recommended for the Navy by the House Appropriations Committee is designed to speed construction of the two-ocean, three-fleet Navy which America must have to meet the potential threat of expanding axis sea power. As aid is being rushed to England in the effort to sustain her in her resistance against the very combination of aggressors which threatens our own peace and security, our navy yards and arsenals are accelerating work on the 729 new ships which are included in our emergency construction program. If the British Navy should be eliminated as our ally on the seas, those aggressors—to be specific, Germany, Italy and Japan—could mobilize a tripartite fleet far greater in strength than anything that we now possess. As of January 1, according to the naval high command, the combined tonnage of the German, Italian and Japanese Navies was 1,835,000, as compared with our own tonnage of 1,250,000. If the French fleet were added, the axis strength would be much greater.

Today we have fifteen battleships to a tripartite total of twenty, six aircraft carriers to eight for the axis, thirty-seven cruisers to seventy-five for the axis, 159 destroyers to 271 for the axis and 105 submarines to 284 for the axis. Within the next two months our new 35,000-ton battleships, the North Carolina and the Washington, will be commissioned, bringing our capital ship total to seventeen. The appropriation hearings disclosed that we are building, in addition, six fast and powerful battle cruisers, similar to those which Japan is said to have under construction. Japan is scheduled to commission two big battleships this year, which would raise the axis total to twenty-two. By January 1, 1943, we will have eighteen capital ships against twenty-eight for the tripartite alliance. At that time we will have seven aircraft carriers in commission, forty-five cruisers, 219 destroyers and 133 submarines. It is estimated that by 1943 the axis will have eight aircraft carriers, 101 cruisers, 325 destroyers and 500 submarines.

Britain has sixteen battleships in commission and probably will add three more late this year or early in 1942, barring unforeseen delays. If two of these new ships are commissioned this year, Britain and the United States will have a total of thirty-five capital ships against the axis' twenty by the end of the year. As long as this naval superiority continues, America will feel reasonably secure. These figures show how vital it is to American safety that Britain should carry on—that her fleet should remain an active bulwark against axis naval power. Meanwhile, we will be making headway on our two-ocean Navy, which, by 1946 or 1947, will be unquestionably the greatest naval force in the world—with a battleship line of thirty-two ships. Once that formidable fleet comes into being, America will be in a position to defend herself successfully against almost any combination of enemy sea power that can be envisioned today.

Poor Fish

There are various degrees of wisdom and preparedness exercised by fishermen in their submarine campaigns. The more casual anglers scorn the possible necessity of replacements and start out with one hook, trusting to luck to find a few worms en route and, by a mysterious providence, often get away with it. The systematic ones carry tackle boxes full of expensive secret weapons and devices to fool the enemy, and by the same mysterious providence often fail to get away with it. It is under these circumstances that there is a crying need for yet another accessory not found in tackle boxes—a good alibi.

Mr. Wilkinson, president of the Fishery Council of New York, generously gives a free one which should be quite popular, as it involves Adolf Hitler. Torpedoes, depth charges and mines, he says, have ruined fish appetites and sent them scurrying for cover. Or could it be that these neutrals, poor fish, have even been intimidated into signing up with the axis? Are the romantic days of individual combat between fish and man gone forever, destroyed by the Moloch of modern mass warfare? Anyhow, it is something different to tell the little woman upon returning empty handed.

Senators Offended By Neely Notes

Reaction May Influence Choice of Successor From West Virginia

By Jay G. Hayden.

A sheaf of officially-recorded memoranda in which former Senator and present Gov. Matthew M. Neely variously characterized his senatorial colleagues as "biggest hog," "smart aleck," "net loss without insurance," and the like, may decide the pending West Virginia senatorial contest.

Neely resigned from the Senate to become Governor, fully expecting to appoint his successor. However, Homer Holt, the retiring Governor, dug up a State constitutional provision which says that no West Virginia official can hold two offices at one time. Wherefore Holt held that Neely must step out of the Senatorship before he could become Governor and in the interval thus created he (Holt) could name the Senator.

In his effort to hit the presumptive split-second of Neely's transition from Senator to Governor, Holt named his appointee, Clarence E. Martin of Martinsburg, no less than three times and sent to the Senate, in varying language, that number of certificates of appointment. Neely wrote a letter, January 12, notifying the Senate of his intention to appoint Joseph Rosier of Fairmont at the stroke of midnight, and followed this with a certificate of appointment dated January 13.

On the ground, as stated by Chairman Tom Connolly of the Privileges and Elections Committee, that "West Virginia is undertaking to make two Senators grow where only one grew before," both sets of credentials were referred to the committee, where they have languished for two months.

Because Neely is a 100 per cent New Dealer, the general assumption was that his man would be seated without much difficulty, and so it might have been except for the disclosure of the scurrilous Neely notes. Since these have been circulated some Senators are being even money that the conservative Holt nominee will be seated. It is authoritatively reported that the Neelys themselves are badly scared and are responsible for the committee's delay. Neely was chairman of the Committee on Rules, a function of which is to allocate office space, seats, extra clerks and other senatorial perquisites. Under any circumstances this job requires much diplomacy, and in its performance Neely certainly was no diplomat. Even before he departed quite a few Senators were angry at him. Senator James E. Murray, Democrat, of Montana was so much so that he introduced a resolution calling for investigation of the Rules Committee's procedure in allocating office space, salaries paid to custodial employees, etc.

Murray's resolution was referred to the Committee on Rules and it was when the new chairman, Senator Harry F. Byrd of Virginia, dug back into the records of his predecessor's regime in this connection that the offensive memoranda were discovered.

Senator Neely frequently went to West Virginia to look over his political fences, and during these absences requests of Senators for office changes were referred to him by mail. Neely wrote back pungently, sometimes to his secretary and sometimes to the superintendent of Capitol buildings. His letters were placed in the committee's file.

One Senator had voted against everything he (Neely) was for, so—turn him down flat, Neely instructed. Another Senator was "the biggest hog on Capitol Hill," a third was a "smart aleck," but he also was a potential troublemaker, so it was wise to give him half a loaf. A fifth was a "dead loss without insurance," so it was foolish to give him anything. There are many more of the same sort, applying indiscriminately to Republicans and Democrats, New Dealers and non-New Dealers.

Senator Byrd has refused to make these documents public, but they have been freely circulated among the Senators concerned—with a result of decidedly boosting Mr. Martin's senatorial stock. He is being helped also by a belief of many Senators that in appointing the 71-year-old Prof. Rosier, Neely was keeping the way open for the return of himself to the Senate two years hence. Martin in contrast is a 61-year-old former president of the American Bar Association, who is widely known in that State and may prove a formidable contender for re-election in 1942 if he wins the present appointment.

The Martin supporters appear to have some sort of the demopoint of senatorial precedent, based on a seat contest occasioned by the death of Henry Clay.

Old and ill in December, 1851, Clay formally notified the Kentucky Legislature of his intention to resign on September 1, 1852. In pursuance of this notice the Legislature chose Archibald Dixon to take over on September 1. However, on June 29, Clay died, and on July 6, in consonance with the Legislature's earlier action, the Governor named David Meriwether to fill the seat until September 1.

Congress had adjourned before September 1. When it reconvened in the following December, Meriwether's friends contested the seat on the claims that the Legislature's election of Dixon was nullified by the death of Clay and it was not in the power of the Governor to limit his appointment. The Senate, by a vote of 27 to 16 seated Dixon. On the basis of this precedent it is contended that even before Neely actually stepped out of the Senatorship it was within the power of Gov. Holt to appoint his successor.

Wants Critic of Greece to Study Her Territorial Claims.

To the Editor of The Star:
 My attention was attracted by a letter in The Star under date of March 11 signed Joanne McGeeary, in which the writer states that Greece had no just cause for claiming the coastal territory in the Aegean Sea from Bulgaria. Permit me to ask if she is aware of the ethnological status of the population comprising not only the Aegean Coast but the Thracian as well as the territory of Asia Minor. If not, then it would be well that she study history.

As far as Greece being involved in the present war, a war in which she has less than no say as to direction or policy, I wish to remind the writer that Greece has not started any imperialistic war against any nation but has been provocatively attacked by a great power.

K. D. FOKIDES.

THIS AND THAT

By Charles E. Tracewell.

"IDYLLWOOD, Va.

"Dear Sir:
 "I enjoy reading your column about the birds and thought, perhaps you might like to hear some of my experiences.

"I purchased a small feeding station and tied it securely to the trunk of a small maple tree that could be seen from the dining room window.

"Then I filled it with wild bird and sunflower seed. To the lower branches of this tree and a neighboring tree, I tied small bits of suet.

"It was not long before my first visitor arrived. He was a cardinal, arrayed in his beautiful red plumage. He alighted upon the feeding station and as soon as he spied the wild bird seed and sunflower seed he started to eat.

"He just ate and ate until I thought there'd be nothing left for any other bird. Soon a blue jay appeared on the scene, then another and another until there were four jays. But not one solitary seed could they get. The cardinal just stood his ground and stared at each blue jay in turn until one by one they flew away. I could hardly believe it. Without a sign of battle the cardinal put four blue jays to flight.

"Soon the little birds appeared, the juncos, the titmice, the nuthatches, chickadees, one lone song sparrow, and a downy woodpecker, and being able to flit about more easily, they managed to get a peck at the suet here and there.

"But it was not until the cardinal had flown away that they really had a chance. Even the cardinal's mate, when she appeared at the feeding station, was chased away.

"It was fun each morning to watch for new arrivals. One day a mourning dove appeared, but only for a moment; then a yellow-bellied sapsucker, and once a lone starling.

"The varying dispositions of the birds amused me. At first the cardinal did not know what to make of the suet. It seemed hard to eat at first, but he soon learned. With the blue jay, it was a case of temper right away. He stabbed at the suet with his long bill and grew madder and madder each minute. He would yank at the suet and jab it but never a taste would he get. Finally, after several weeks, he too, learned how to eat it. Now he takes a good peck at it, manages to get a nice little tidbit, then sits quietly eating and enjoying it.

"The woodpecker was the most sensible of all. He spied a piece of suet, stayed right with it, and ate and ate until it was time to rest a bit, then at it again.

"The other little birds flitted constantly about, taking a peck here and a peck there.

"I noticed the chickadees, nuthatches and downy woodpeckers could eat suet while suspended upside down but not so the others.

"One cold morning when the ground was covered with snow and the branches coated with ice, I was tying pieces of suet to the branches and my hands were getting colder by the minute, when I heard a little 'chickadee-dee-dee' and

I glanced up to the roof and there sat my little friend saying, 'Thank you.'

"To me, that was everything and I soon forgot my cold hands."

"Now after many weeks of quarreling there is peace among my birds. Almost any morning the blue jay can be seen eating from one of the higher branches, the cardinal from a lower one and flitting about pecking here and there, can be seen juncos, tufted titmice, chickadees, downy woodpeckers and one lone song sparrow.

"It is hard to take a choice, but I think my favorite bird is the little chickadee.

"I guess it is because he said 'Thank you' when I was so cold that morning.

"Sincerely, E. A. H."

Bird observation, as we pointed out here recently, is an individual matter. While there are standard patterns of action, there are variations also. Our correspondent speaks of cardinals and jays eating suet.

We have never seen either jay or cardinal eat suet in our yard.

And yet that does not mean that each of us hasn't seen correctly.

Such varying observations simply prove that birds are individualists, too, and that philosophies of government which would attempt to divest human beings of individuality and separate personality are barking up the wrong tree.

The animal world itself proves them wrong.

Again, we have never seen a cardinal stand off a blue jay.

To the contrary, we have seen a handsome male cardinal leave the feeding station literally thousands of times in the last five years when jays have flown in with that rowdy yell of theirs.

Here, again, this does not mean that our correspondent did not have an unusual cardinal.

He was either braver than most, or maybe of such poor vision, that he could not see the other bird.

Our guess is that he was simply a bird which, through some different coordination, failed to fly at the approach of another and larger bird.

This lack of action nonplussed the jay. We always have thought that if smaller birds would stand their ground, larger ones seldom would be able to run them away from food.

Both birds and fish "fight" in such a manner, that is, they push toward another, and the other flees at once.

In most cases, if the attacked creature holds its position, the attacker itself swerves and goes away.

Thus we see that bluff is a fundamental animal characteristic.

The other day we watched with much amusement an English sparrow out-buff four starlings. Each starling in turn tried to drive it away from the rim of a feeding station. The sparrow refused to fly away, and finally hopped down bodily into the feeder with the larger birds, which walked all over it in their search for food. The sparrow did not seem to mind being tumbled around, but ate away greedily. This was the first and only time we have ever seen a sparrow contest food with starlings.

Letters to the Editor

Tells of Noble Beauty Of Gutson Borglum's "Rabboni."

To the Editor of The Star:

The articles carried by the Washington papers commenting on the recent death of Gutson Borglum were strangely remiss in one respect. Although Mr. Borglum's career was written up in detail and mention made of his various works, no reference whatever was made to the beautiful piece of sculpture which he himself, in a lecture given a few years ago, acknowledged as his masterpiece. The oversight is all the more incomprehensible in view of the fact that this monument, which has been pronounced by art critics as being one of the world's greatest examples of modern art, is located right here in Rock Creek Cemetery.

The statue cited marks the graves of the Charles Mather Foulke family. It is a life-size bronze entitled, "Rabboni," and is the artist's conception of Mary Magdalene emerging from the empty tomb of Christ on the first Easter morning. The story is told in the twentieth chapter of the Gospel according to St. John, and so great is the sculptor's skill that one can almost see the figure quivering with eagerness and tears staining the lovely face, despite the incredulous joy which Mary must have felt when she beheld the figure of Christ in the garden. The word "Rabboni" is from the Aramaic, and is interpreted as "Master," being the word uttered by Mary as she recognized the Risen Christ.

With the approach of Easter and the ever-present need for spiritual strength in a distracted world, a visit to this beautiful monument might well be in order. First visit the nearby masterpiece of St. Gaudens (the Adams Memorial, erroneously called "Grief") with its eternal question as to the ultimate fate of the soul, and then study "Rabboni." The Christian will find here the answer to his question.

Incidentally, Genoa may have its Campo Santo, but the Nation's Capital has its Rock Creek Cemetery—an outdoor museum of art, where may be found examples of the handwork of many of America's greatest sculptors.

MRS. HARRY OUTRIDGE.

Cites Hardships of Motorists During Car Inspections.

To the Editor of The Star:

What appears to be fast becoming a pernicious annual practice of harassing and milking the District of Columbia motorists is the local automobile inspection. It is not enough that the average motorist is subjected to the harrowing hours of queue duty, both at the inspection centers and the traffic office.

At the inspection station, a maze of contraptions put the automobile through myriad tests so that even new cars fail to meet the requirements. Despite all of these mechanical devices, accidents occur—and nine out of ten times it is the driver, not the automobile mechanism, at fault.

As for meeting the inspection test requirement, was there ever a greater burden for local garages?

In one instance, a motorist was required to have his car's headlights ad-

justed. So—off to a garage, where with a half-turn of the screwdriver, the job was done. Time: Thirty seconds. Fee: \$1. Back to the inspection center, to be rejected again. Back to another garage (desperate now) another twist of the screwdriver. Time for labor: Thirty seconds. Fee: \$1. Now the headlights meet the approval of the examiners. Not forgetting a \$20 repair bill for so-called minor adjustments.

No one denies that an automobile should have good brakes, proper lights and any feature that promotes safe driving. But in attaining this goal is it necessary to make a "good thing" out of the car owner? Or is it that Santa Claus has given up his reindeer and sleigh for the privilege of driving a District of Columbia auto, especially so at inspection time?

In other words, I am burning up with indignation.

BERNARD KOHN.

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Haskin's Answers To Questions

By Frederic J. Haskin.

A reader can get the answer to any question of fact by writing The Evening Star Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, director, Washington, D. C. Please include stamp for reply.

Q. What percentage of draftees have teeth that disqualify them for service?—H. S. H.

A. Twenty per cent of the candidates for training under selective service are unfit because of poor teeth.

Q. How many ducks and geese have been banded by Jack Miner at his Canadian sanctuary?—J. B.

A. Since 1909, Jack Miner has banded more than 50,000 ducks. He has banded over 25,000 Canada geese since 1915.

Q. Please give the name of the State whose inhabitants are known as free-men.—J. T. R.

A. The citizens of the State of Vermont are referred to in the State constitution as free-men of the State.

Q. What President had the largest number of children?—C. L. B.